

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
1/21/13 – 2/3/13**

DISTRICT 1

CO Mark Leadman responded to the complaint of illegal snares on state land. The complainant recovered his dog from one of the illegal snares. The dog unfortunately spent the night in the illegal snare but is doing well. Case is under investigation.

CO Matthew Eberly assisted local deputies with a rollover accident over the weekend. CO Eberly also attempted to locate a snowmobile accident that was called in to the sheriff's department. After several hours of searching, CO Eberly and the deputies were unable to locate a victim. CO Eberly did find a possible accident scene with no snowmobile or operator present.

CO Dave Painter observed an angler for an extended time on a rural Iron County lake. The subject walked out onto the ice from a cabin multiple times to check four tip-ups in front of the cabin. CO Painter contacted the angler and was quickly informed that two of the tip-ups were his and two belonged to his wife. A RSS check of the female subject revealed she had not purchased a fishing license for 2012. When presented with the evidence the husband admitted to tending the over limit of lines. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon contacted the occupants of an ice shack after dark on a snowy evening. The occupants were surprised to see an officer out in the poor weather conditions. Multiple violations were addressed including fishing without a license and overlimits of lines.

CO Dave Painter responded to the scene of a snowmobile accident in Iron County. The snowmobile operator failed to negotiate a curve on a county road, and left the roadway striking a tree. The snowmobiler died as a result of injuries sustained in the crash.

CO Brian Bacon contacted a subject leaving an ice shanty on an ORV. The subject was operating an unregistered ORV and had left his three lines unattended. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon responded to a snowmobile accident near Norway. A 53 year old female operator hit an icy patch on the trail causing her to lose control of the snowmobile. The snowmobile overturned and landed on the operator. The operator was transported to Dickinson County Hospital with back and shoulder injuries.

DISTRICT 2

The East End District officers of Area 2 conducted a group patrol for the I-500 snowmobile race in Sault Ste. Marie. Many contacts were made along with several

tickets and arrests. The majority of the snowmobile related tickets were for careless operation of a snowmobile along with a few for registration and trail permit issues.

Officers issued 24 tickets, 58 warnings and 2 physical arrests were made. On one of the arrests CO Jeff Panich made a stop on a snowmobile with an expired registration. A LEIN check revealed the subject had a warrant for assault and battery which was from an incident where the subject assaulted another after his goat was run over and he was nearly struck by the vehicle while attempting to catch his goat. Officers were told the goat survived. Bond was eventually posted.

CO Kevin Postma was working the trails near the I-500 when a subject passed him at a high rate of speed in a careless manner. As the CO gave chase the subject was taking corners on the inside and going into the oncoming lane of traffic. The CO finally caught up to the subject and issued him a much deserved, careless operation of a snowmobile ticket. The operator still didn't believe he was doing anything wrong.

In another case CO Kevin Postma observed two snowmobiles without trail permits or registrations. Upon contact one of the subjects yelled and complained about why he was stopped as he pulled the trail permit and registration stickers out of his pocket. It was then learned that the two subjects didn't like the colors of the trail permit and registration stickers as they wouldn't look good on their sleds. Enforcement action taken.

Lt. Skip Hagy and Sgt. Gerald Thayer contacted a subject operating a snowmobile without registration and trail permit. It turned out that the snowmobile was registered but the stickers weren't on the sled. The subject also pulled a trail permit out of his pocket and explained that he wanted to ride multiple sleds this year with the same trail permit and had borrowed the trail permit from his grandfather, who bought it for another snowmobile. A warning was given for the non-display of the registration and a ticket was issued for failing to attach the trail permit in a permanent manner. The subject then asked if he could just tape it on so he could switch it. He was advised no and was directed to affix the permit before he left the contact.

CO Jared Ferguson assisted looking for a lost ice angler on Little Bay De Noc during a snowstorm. The subject had become disoriented and without a compass had walked east instead of west and ended up on the opposite side of the Bay. No injuries were involved.

CO Jared Ferguson handled another complaint made by someone walking their dog without a leash in an area where legal trapping was occurring. The complainant was upset that the traps were in the area. The laws were explained to the caller, including the leash law.

While returning from a department meeting in Newberry, COs John Wenzel and Jared Ferguson assisted Michigan State Police (MSP) units with several vehicle accidents and cars in the ditch during a severe snowstorm along US2.

CO John Wenzel assisted in the rescue of an ice angler who was driving his ORV when it went through the ice on Little Bay De Noc. The water depth was fortunately only three to four feet deep and the angler had been standing on his ORV awaiting assistance. Public safety and search and rescue personnel responded to the scene with their hovercraft and rescued the angler. CO Wenzel assisted in the extrication of the ORV from the ice.

While assisting local deputies with an accident scene, CO Mike Evink's patrol truck with emergency lights activated was struck from behind by another vehicle driving too fast for conditions. Upon stopping at the accident scene, CO Evink watched as three vehicles went out of control ahead of him and drove into the ditch. He then saw in his rearview mirror that a fourth vehicle was skidding out of control from behind him. He was not injured and the patrol truck received minor damage to the rear bumper.

CO Mike Evink worked a fishing derby on Indian Lake again this year. Even with COs involvement for the past several years on prior contact with participants, he came upon a derby participant fishing with six lines. The person's excuse was that his brother had just left. After waiting for quite a while and no brother returning to the scene, a ticket was issued.

DISTRICT 3

The Black Lake sturgeon season took place this last week. COs were busy with pre-season and active season patrols. This year there was a six sturgeon harvest limit, and the season lasted three days. COs assisted anglers before and during the season. There were few problems, with miscellaneous tickets issued for fishing, snowmobile, and ORV violations.

At a wrestling tournament on his pass day, CO Carl VanderWall assisted a subject having a heart attack until Emergency Medical Services (EMS) arrived.

CO Jon Sklba found an angler in possession of an out of season bass. While writing the ticket, he found the subject had a warrant out for his arrest. CO Sklba arrested the subject and walked him off the ice, where he was met by a sheriff's deputy.

Officers from area 3 participated in Operation Life Saver with officers from the sheriff's department and MSP. The officers focused their enforcement efforts near the Lake State rail line looking for snowmobile riders operating along and jumping the tracks. Thirty-six tickets were issued during the patrol, 15 for railroad trespass and the others were issued for careless operation and registration and trail permit violations.

DISTRICT 4

Toward the end of the muzzleloader season a landowner with posted farmland observed another hunter shoot at an antlerless deer on his property in Leelanau County. The landowner contacted the subject and asked what he was doing hunting on

his property. The landowner also asked the subject if he had an antlerless tag. The trespassing subject stated, "No, but my dad does". The violation was reported and CO Rebecca Hopkins has been investigating the incident. Once the trespassing subject was identified, CO Hopkins was able to track the suspect down and close the complaint by making an arrest for recreational trespass.

While on snowmobile patrol COs Rebecca Hopkins and Justin Vanderlinde observed an unusual trail permit affixed to a snowmobile. CO Vanderlinde discovered the operator had taken part of an unused deer license kill tag and had used an ink pen to write "snow 13", across the tag. The subject then affixed it to the snowmobile hoping it would not be noticed. CO Vanderlinde also discovered that the operator was suspended and should not be operating a snowmobile to begin with. Enforcement action was taken.

While on snowmobile patrol COs Steve Converse and Justin Vanderlinde discovered a new way one snowmobile operator was using to try and avoid getting caught. COs Converse and Vanderlinde stopped several snowmobiles five of which did not have the required trail permit. The owner of all five snowmobiles advised CO Vanderlinde that he had purchased the trail permits but they were back home. CO Vanderlinde asked where "home" was. The operator gave a location. CO Vanderlinde then advised the snowmobile operator that he would follow them home to see the trail permits. The operator then made a quick cell phone call to his wife, the conversation went, "You are at Meijers now? You need to come home". Upon arrival at the residence, the COs observed a half full glass of wine on the table, fresh tracks out of the residence, but no wife. A short time later, the wife returned with trail permits, the ink on which was still wet, but nothing from Meijers. It seems the cell phone conversation was their secret phrase for the wife to quickly run out to the store down the street and buy trail permits due to her husband getting stopped. Enforcement action was taken.

Over the weekend, CO Sean Kehoe and Sgt. Robert Torres responded to two separate complaints of snowmobiles falling through the ice in Grand Traverse County. Both operators made it to shore safely but their snowmobiles went to the bottom of the lakes. One fell through on Skegemog Lake and the other on Duck Lake. Both operators were in the process of having their snowmobiles removed from the water.

CO Rich Stowe received two complaints of household trash being dumped on state land in Grand Traverse County. CO Stowe located the dump sites and was able to determine the identities of the responsible parties. Contact was made and a ticket was issued for littering.

Sgt. Mike Bomay and CO Brian Lebel of Mecosta County and CO Jeremy Payne of Isabella County were working a rabbit hunting contest that has gained in popularity over the past several years. CO Payne came across a group of rabbit hunters outside of their vehicle who were acting suspicious. CO Payne was later contacted by a landowner identifying the same rabbit hunters as shooting from their vehicle onto private property they did not have permission to hunt. The COs contacted the large hunting

contest party and conducted interviews. Statements were obtained and the suspect firearm was seized pending a warrant review by the prosecutor's office.

CO Jeff Ginn was patrolling the Hess Lake Winter Festival and came across two ORVs that had fallen through the ice. Two nearby anglers that witnessed the incident had used their ice auger to assist in the rescue of the two operators. Divers were called to recover the ORVs that had sunk to the bottom.

CO Mike Wells was checking lakes for ice fishing activity when he observed four tip-ups and three snowmobiles in front of a lakeside residence. CO Wells checked the tip-ups and found no identification on them. CO Wells contacted several subjects inside the residence and determined that two of the subjects did not have fishing licenses and all three snowmobiles lacked trail permits and displayed expired registrations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Wells was checking area lakes on foot when he came across a tip-up with the flag sprung, indicating a fish was on. CO Wells observed the tip-up for some time with no one tending the tip-up. CO Wells contacted the lakefront residence and discovered that the subject who had set the tip-up was no longer there. CO Wells requested that the homeowner contact the subject and have him return to the residence. A short time later the subject returned and admitted placing the unattended tip-ups. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Wells contacted a snowmobiler operating with a 2005 registration. The owner claimed to have just purchased the machine. A check with dispatch indicated that the snowmobile was purchased some time ago and the owner had failed to transfer ownership. The current owner had made a false bill of sale knowing that the original owner had passed away.

CO Troy VanGelderren was on snowmobile patrol when he came across a snowmobile operating with expired registration. Contact was made and it was discovered that the operator was driving on an expired license and had multiple warrants for his arrest. The operator was lodged in the Oceana County Jail and the snowmobile was impounded.

DISTRICT 5

CO Matt Liestenfeltz assisted local deputies with a domestic complaint. The subject involved in the domestic had an outstanding warrant and was believed to have fled before officers arrived. Officer Liestenfeltz went to the house and was able to convince the subject to come to the door. The subject was then taken into custody without incident.

Patrols were conducted during the second weekend of Houghton Lake's Tip-Up Town. Officers encountered unregistered snowmobiles, no trail permits, failure to wear helmets while operating snowmobiles, operating ORVs without helmets, fishing with too many lines and fishing without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Warren MacNeill received a complaint of an angler who had gone through the ice on his ORV and had been unable to get out. CO MacNeill organized a recovery effort between responding agencies. The angler and his quad were located and recovered but unfortunately the angler had drowned.

Sgt. Glenn Gutierrez responded to a complaint of a subject cutting wood illegally and found the individual with a pick-up load of wood that had been stolen off state land. The subject did not possess a fuelwood permit to cut on state land, and had been ticketed in the past for the same offense. He also had a lengthy criminal record.

CO Steve Lockwood assisted CO Joel Lundberg in ticketing a subject who had harvested a bobcat and failed to attach a kill tag.

DISTRICT 6

CO Jeremy Payne observed a snowmobile being operated on the shoulder of the road without a trail permit. The CO thought this was odd because there was only a dusting of snow on the ground. The CO made contact with the operator and determined the operator's license was suspended a second time for driving a motor vehicle while intoxicated. Regardless of the lack of snow the operator thought it was okay to operate his snowmobile since he could no longer drive a car. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling Isabella County, CO Jeremy Payne contacted five small game hunters. The hunters were driving between hunting locations when contact was made. A quick check determined that the firearms were cased and unloaded. The hunters explained to the CO they were part of a rabbit hunting competition near Berryton. When the CO released them and continued his patrol he was stopped by a nearby resident. The CO was informed that the vehicle he just stopped was road hunting and trespassed onto private property. The CO was able to re-contact the suspects and determined that one hunter had shot at a rabbit from the vehicle and then attempted to retrieve it from the private property. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jay Person assisted a subject that called in an injured dog that he found in the woods near a major roadway. The complainant stated he found the dog after spotting some blood on the road and thinking a deer was hit. The complainant looked in the woods for the deer but came across the injured dog. Midland County Central Dispatch was able to come up with a possible owner as he reported two of his dogs missing three nights prior. The dog was reunited with its owner and the injuries were not life threatening.

CO Joel Lundberg acquired a warrant for assault on an individual that assaulted an angler that was legally fishing in his boat on the Tittabawassee River. The property owner, that lived right along the river, did not want the fishermen fishing in the river so closed to his home. The home owner retrieved a fire extinguisher, and deployed the entire contents of the extinguisher all over the angler and his boat.

CO Joel Lundberg investigated a case where a bobcat was killed illegally. The interview confirmed that the suspect trapped and transported the bobcat without a bobcat kill tag. The suspect was also trespassing on private property. Enforcement action was taken and the bobcat was seized.

While on patrol, CO Quincy Gowenlock observed a 10 year old boy operating an ORV on a County Road while pulling his 8 year old sister in a sled behind. The juveniles also were not supervised, had no ORV permit, no helmets, illegally towing and had no ORV safety certificates. The parents were not home and their 20 year old brother was supposed to be watching them. The older brother was contacted and enforcement action was taken.

COs Quincy Gowenlock and Dan Lee were checking ice fishermen on the Saginaw River when they observed two anglers leaving a large group as they approached. The COs contacted the anglers, who were pulling a sled with ice fishing rods, tackle and a bucket with live minnows. The anglers told the COs that they were not fishing and that they were only out on the ice to visit with some friends. Neither had a license. CO Lee checked a little deeper into the sled and found a hidden walleye. Enforcement action was taken..

CO Dan Lee made several contacts with snowmobiles on the Bad River near the Shiawassee River State Game Area headquarters in St Charles. Multiple violations were addressed including trail permits, registrations, speeding, trespassing, operating in a State Game area and operating too close to ice fishermen on the river. Tickets were issued.

While patrolling Lake Isabella, CO Larn R. Strawn observed a man operating a snowmobile with no helmet. The CO contacted the snowmobiler and asked him about the violation. While talking to the snowmobiler, the CO also discovered the required trail permit and registration were both expired. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Bob Hobkirk had submitted a warrant request for three subjects who were involved in an incident where they had taken deer from a motor vehicle during the 2012 deer season. All of the hunters have been charged. One of the subjects, a juvenile, has been petitioned into probate court for taking a deer from a vehicle and loaded firearm in a motor vehicle. Both of the adults have also been arrested on their warrants. One hunter was charged with taking a deer from a vehicle and possessing a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle. The second adult is charged with being a Felon in Possession of a firearm and possessing a loaded firearm in a vehicle.

While checking a group of coyote hunters, CO Bob Hobkirk checked a subject sitting in his vehicle on the side of the road. As CO Hobkirk pulled up next to the subject, he attempted to unload his shotgun before the CO saw him. Unfortunately he wasn't quite fast enough. The hunter was cited for having a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle.

CO Chad Foerster was patrolling the Saginaw Bay for ice fishing activity when he encountered numerous anglers doing very well on walleye. During the checks, numerous anglers were found to be fishing and in possession of fish without licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

Conservation Officer Jason A. Smith received a complaint of coyote hunters whose dogs were trespassing. After explaining the trespass laws to the property owner, the area was checked and one of the hunters was issued a citation for having an uncased firearm in a motor vehicle.

Conservation Officers Jason A. Smith and Seth Rhodea doubled up on a patrol and worked coyote hunters an unmarked patrol truck. Four loaded firearms and one uncased firearm were found in separate motor vehicles by different groups of hunters. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Atkin checked dozens of anglers on Saginaw Bay operating ORVs and snowmobiles without helmets or proper licensing. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Greg Patten conducted snowmobile patrols in eastern Muskegon County. He issued tickets to three operators for having no trail permits and to two riders for operation of a snowmobile with a suspended operator's license. A computer check led to another operator being lodged at the county jail on an outstanding warrant for child support.

CO Dave Rodgers reported observing a group of five goose hunters for a long period of time as they hunted an open crop field in Kent County. CO Rodgers was able to establish that each hunter in the group possessed a firearm and was hunting. Upon the conclusion of the hunt, one person denied hunting and said he was just there with his friends to watch. When informed by CO Rodgers of his activities during the last couple of hours, he admitted to hunting geese without a license and with an unplugged shotgun. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Steve Mooney, Jeff Robinette, Andy Bauer and Sgt. Zach Doss participated in a group snowmobile patrol on the Kal-Haven Trail after a recent snowfall. COs made 247 contacts, gave 21 warnings, and issued 17 tickets for various violations.

CO Mike McGee located three snowmobilers trespassing on a local school's property. The snowmobilers did not have trail permits and there were registration problems in addition to the trespass violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike McGee located three bags of garbage which had been dumped at a local lake access site. CO McGee located items with names inside of the bag and subsequently located the person whose garbage it was. CO McGee issued a ticket for litter and the garbage will be cleaned up.

While on patrol for snowmobile activity, CO Mike Mshar observed a subject drive her vehicle erratically off the road and onto the snowmobile trail. Contact with the subject revealed numerous empty bottles of alcohol and a strong odor of intoxicants. The subject registered over the legal alcohol limit and was lodged at the Allegan County jail.

CO Mike Mshar responded to a complaint of snowmobiles operating off the trail onto the complainant's property. It was determined that the complainant had blocked the designated trail which lead to the illegal operation. A discussion with the complainant led to a resolution of the situation.

CO Mike Mshar located a vehicle stuck in the Allegan SGA. Upon contact with the driver, a loaded .22 rifle was located and a confession was obtained from the driver that let his two juvenile sons hunt unsupervised while he drove around hunting from his vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 8

CO Shane Webster was working on a complaint of an unattended tip-up and decided to check a couple anglers on the lake. The first angler was licensed but the second subject stated he left his wallet in the truck. The subject gave CO Webster his name and date of birth which returned as "No record". The name and date of birth was confirmed a second time but still returned as invalid. The subject was placed in handcuffs and a search revealed a Bridge card with a different name than the subject had provided. The subject confessed that he had warrants for his arrest and a file check revealed he had three warrants outstanding. CO Webster turned to the second subject who had begun packing up his fishing gear and advised him to be honest about if he had warrants as well. The subject confessed that he too had warrants, which was confirmed through dispatch. Both subjects were led off the ice and a local deputy assisted with transporting them to jail. Both subjects were lodged in the county jail and other charges are pending for the false identification and possession of marijuana. Both subjects did have valid fishing licenses.

CO Damon Owens and Sgt. Troy Bahlau were able to close out a reckless boating case after testifying in a bench trial of their observations and evidence. The court found the subject guilty of the charge and fines of \$350 were assessed.

CO Brian Fish discovered a large tree that had fallen across a rural road blocking the passage of school buses in the afternoon. CO Fish stood by to assist the buses with nearly a one mile back up as there were no areas to turn around.

CO Brian Fish's case of "Hunt from a motor Vehicle" against a hunter who was also a convicted felon from Tennessee resulted in an agreement of a guilty plea with court ordered loss of the rifle.

CO Kyle Bader took a Report-All-Poaching (RAP) complaint of a subject bringing a bag of fish off the lake and putting it in his truck then returning to the lake to fish. CO Bader located the angler on the lake fishing with four tip-ups. As CO Bader was walking to check some other anglers nearby before dealing with the violation, he saw the first angler bury something in the snow. When the angler went to pull out his illegal tip-up, CO Bader located two pill bottles buried in the snow. One contained marijuana and the other contained tablets that were not the same as the label and have yet to be properly identified. The angler was ticketed for the fishing violation (his fourth ticket for fishing with too many lines). Charges are pending through the prosecutor's office for the controlled substances.

CO Rich Nickols finished an investigation of several deer carcasses dumped on state land where a couple licenses were recovered. A five count warrant was approved for one subject who was fraudulently obtaining licenses and two counts were issued to another subject, who is a deer processor, for littering and failing to maintain records.

CO Daniel Prince checked seven local lakes in Livingston County and made 54 ice fishing contacts. CO Prince issued three fishing tickets for subjects not having fishing licenses, gave eight verbal warnings for fishing violations and had one arrest for a subject with a warrant out of Livingston County. The subject was lodged in the Livingston County Jail. The subject also had an officer safety caution for felonious assault and resist and obstruct a police officer.

COs Daniel Prince and Pete Purdy contacted an angler on Fonda Lake. The subject had an out of season largemouth bass, no name and address on his tip-ups and did not have his fishing license with him. Enforcement action was taken. The COs also issued tickets to two subjects who had unattended tip-ups out all night on Island Lake.

While contacting ice anglers on Hewes Lake, CO Todd Thorn stopped to speak with the occupants of a truck who were on their way to the lake access site. There was a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle, so the situation was investigated. CO Thorn found that the driver of the vehicle had a suspended license and had four outstanding warrants. One of those warrants was for assaulting a police officer. The driver was arrested and taken to the county jail.

CO Derek Miller and Sgt. Joe Kellam were patrolling the ice fishing activity in Lenawee County. They observed two anglers leave the ice and head toward their truck. Upon contact the anglers said they did not have much luck. The COs observed two northern pike lying on their shanty and covered with equipment. A quick glance and a follow up with a tape measure showed that one of the fish was two inches short. The anglers said they kept it because it had swallowed a hook. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Derek Miller and Jason Smith were on an ORV stop when a subject came through the intersection and fishtailed around the corner. The subject continued fishtailing his truck, driving over the center line, as he sped away from the COs. The COs followed the subject to his residence where he admitted to fishtailing around the corner just to have some fun. They advised the subject that he could have hit someone when driving carelessly. The subject was issued a ticket for careless driving.

COs Derek Miller and Jason Smith were checking anglers on Devils Lake when they located an angler in a portable shanty using too many lines. When contacted, the subject admitted that he knew it was only three lines in Michigan, but that one or more of them must have fallen down the hole when he was moving around. CO Miller advised him that they didn't just bait themselves and fall down the hole. When the subject was moving out of the shanty, CO Miller observed a glass smoking pipe on his fishing gear in his shanty. A small quantity of marijuana was seized from the subject and a ticket was issued.

COs Derek Miller and Jason Smith were patrolling US 23 when they observed several snowmobiles operating in the right of way. When the snowmobiles passed their location two of them jumped onto the shoulder of the state highway and fled at a high rate of speed. The COs activated their emergency lights and stopped one of the subjects approximately 1.5 miles down the road. The subject was operating against the flow of

traffic on the shoulder of a state highway. The subject also had no registration on his snowmobile, no trail permit, had a suspended driver's license and had two warrants for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Derek Miller, while contacting anglers in Washtenaw County, found two subjects who had quite a few fish in their bucket. When he asked the subjects what kind of fish they had they reported they were all crappies. CO Miller located one fish in the bottom of the bucket that was different than all of the others, a largemouth bass. One subject admitted to keeping it and said he just couldn't throw it back.

DISTRICT 9

Sgt. Tom Wanless responded to a snowmobile personal injury accident where a subject had hit a tree. Sgt. Wanless assisted the paramedics with his four wheel drive and trailer to get back off road and transport the victim to a waiting ambulance. He also assisted the local police agency with the investigation. The victim was racing with other snowmobiles, could not stop in time, and drove into a berm covered with small trees and brush. The trees and brush slowed the snowmobile down which decreased the impact. The victim was transported to a local hospital after being knocked unconscious. He appeared to have only minor injuries.

CO Todd Szyska and Sgt. Tom Wanless were checking the large number of anglers fishing Lake St. Clair and dealt with several ORV violations, including subjects not having ORV licenses, subjects using non-DOT approved helmets, and riding double. One subject even decided not to park in the public access site and drove his ORV across township property and onto the main roadway to get to the access site. The subject operating the ORV was issued a ticket for operating the ORV on the roadway.

CO Ken Kovach received a complaint from local dispatch as well as the RAP hotline about coyote hunters road hunting and trespassing in the south end of the county. CO Kovach, along with local deputies and MSP troopers, responded to the area. CO Kovach found a few of the suspect vehicles and set up surveillance. After a short time, he contacted a group of the subjects. All had their valid hunting licenses; however, several had uncased and loaded firearms in their motor vehicles. One subject had multiple prior violations for the same and related violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Drexler was on patrol of a state game area when he contacted a man and woman engaging in indecent activity in their vehicle. After obtaining identification, CO Drexler learned that both of the subjects' driver's licenses were suspended and both were recently discharged from probation for home invasion. The male subject was also in possession of narcotics. The vehicle was impounded and enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Drexler finalized a case where a subject shot a 10 point buck with a rifle on opening day of archery season. The subject pled guilty and was fined over \$500 and

served five days in jail, and was charged \$1000 reimbursement for the deer. The subject's rifle was condemned and his hunting licenses suspended until 2017. Less than two months after he was caught with the illegal deer, the same subject was caught shining with a loaded and uncased rifle by COs Mike Drexler, Derek Miller and Jason Smith. This case was also finalized and the subject paid \$800 in fines.

COs Mike Drexler and Mark Ennett were on patrol when they observed a vehicle driving erratically, nearly causing an accident. A traffic stop was conducted and the operator tried to provide a false name and date of birth after stating he left his driver's license at home but soon confessed that he had a warrant. The subject in fact had a felony warrant out of Wayne County and several misdemeanor warrants. The subject was arrested and lodged on his warrants.

CO Mike Drexler was checking anglers and gave one subject a warning for fishing without a license. One of the conditions of the warning was that the subject needed to purchase a fishing license within a day. Seven days later the subject still had not purchased a fishing license so CO Drexler stopped by his residence. The subject said he would really purchase a license this time if the CO gave him another break. The subject received a ticket for fishing without a license.

CO Brandon Kieft was making contact with a large group of snowmobile and ORV riders when one of the subjects decided to get on his snowmobile and quickly leave the area. CO Kieft recognized the suspicious activity and jumped in his patrol truck. Taking a shorter route, CO Kieft was able to get behind the operator and conducted a traffic stop. The snowmobile was unregistered and did not have a valid trail permit. The operator also admitted that he left the area because he saw CO Kieft checking the other machines. Tickets were issued for operating an unregistered snowmobile and having no trail permit.

CO Brandon Kieft was checking three anglers on a local lake when he determined one of them did not have a current fishing license. While checking the angler's fishing gear, CO Kieft also located a loaded handgun and a small bag of marijuana. The subject did have a valid Concealed Pistol License, but had failed to disclose it to CO Kieft. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Brandon Kieft and Ben Shively interviewed a subject who had posted a number of photographs online of whitetail bucks that he shot during the 2012 Firearm Deer Season. While questioning the subject, he admitted to shooting three bucks in 2012; a four-point, a six-point, and an eight-point. Further questioning revealed that the subject also used another hunter's license to tag one of the deer. The deer mounts were seized as evidence and warrants will be sought through the prosecutor's office.

CO Linda Scheidler followed up on a complaint of a nuisance animal control business which was quoted in the paper as releasing thousands of animals they capture. Upon contact with the business, the CO was told by the contractor that he does euthanize some regulated animals by using a "smoke bomb" which is meant for non-regulated

species, such as moles and voles. He was warned to use the methods which have been determined to be humane as outlined by the DNR.

CO Ben Lasher received a safety zone and recreational trespass complaint from St. Clair County Central Dispatch. The complainant observed a subject in hunter orange on his property. CO Lasher responded immediately and was able to track the subjects onto the adjoining property. While tracking the subjects, CO Lasher found spent shell casings. The CO contacted the subjects and interviewed them. The shells he recovered matched those in the subject's firearm. The subject admitted to trespassing and taking a rabbit within the safety zone. A warrant is being sought.

While patrolling back to St. Clair County from Lapeer, CO Ken Kovach observed fresh ORV tracks on a local trail. The CO started to check the crossroads and eventually stopped the subjects, who also were not wearing helmets and had no ORV licenses. Enforcement action was taken.